




Atty. Dkt. No. 047940-0139

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Koichi MASUDA et al.
Title: ENGINEERED INTERVERTEBRAL
DISC TISSUE
Appl. No.: 10/084,640
Filing Date: February 25, 2002
Examiner: Unknown
Art Unit: Unknown

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date below. Robert N. Young (Printed Name)  (Signature) August 30, 2002 (Date of Deposit)	RECEIVED SEP 05 2002 FBI/DOJ CENTER 1600/2900
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

All of the documents are in English.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-2350. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 50-2350.

Respectfully submitted,

Date August 30, 2002
FOLEY & LARDNER
Customer Number: 23524

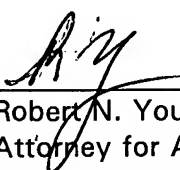


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ATTY. DOCKET NO.

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SERIAL NO.

10/084,640

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APPLICANT

Koichi MASUDA et al.

FILING DATE

February 25, 2002

GROUP ART UNIT

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		4,356,261	10/26/82	Kuettner			
		4,642,120	02/10/87	Nevo et al.			
		4,673,566	06/16/87	Goosen et al.			
		4,846,835	07/11/89	Grande			
		4,904,259	02/27/90	Itay			
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(Other Documents continued on page 4)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

* **EXAMINER:** Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include any copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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047940-0119

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10/054,710

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		FILING DATE 01/22/2002	GROUP ART UNIT

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